

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

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FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3288

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 2303

H FOR MISS SWIFT

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, TW, US, OVIP (WOLFF, LESTER L.L
SUBJECT: CODEL WOLFF CALL ON PREMIER

FOLLOWING IS UNCLEARED EMBASSY RECORD OF CODEL WOLFF'S CALL
ON PREMIER CHIANG APRIL 20. CALLERS ON U.S. SIDE WERE:
REP. WOLFF, REP. MEYNER, REP. BIAGGI, STAFFERS FLOTT,
NELLIS, DUSKIE, HYNDMAN AND HOSTINE; ASSISTANT SECRETARY
HOLBROOKE; AMBASSADOR UNGE; DOD REPRESENTATIVE LTC LAUENSTEIN;
AND EMBASSY POLITICAL OFFICER DE WILDE. ON THE ROC SIDE
WERE THE PREMIER AND FOREIGN MINISTER SHEN. EXCHANGES BETWEEN
THE PREMIER AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE REPORTED SEPTEL.

1. AFTER PRELIMINARY EXCHANGE OF COURTESIES, REP. WOLFF
SAID THAT THE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION EXPRESSED THE CONTINU-
ING INTEREST OF CONGRESS IN THE ROC AND THE PACIFIC AREA,
AND THE DESIRE OF THE U.S. TO MAINTAIN STABILITY AND PEACE
IN THE WORLD. HE MENTIONED HIS PLEASURE AT HAVING ASSISTANT
SECRETARY HOLBROOKE ALONG ON HIS TRIP. THE U.S. HAS
EXPRESSED CONTINUING INTEREST IN HUMAN RIGHTS, AND THIS
HAS BEEN PARTICULARLY EMPHASIZED BY PRESIDENT CARTER.
CONCERN FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IS NOT DIRECTED AT ONE NATION,
BUT IS FOR ALL.

2. BY WAY OF BACKGROUND, THE PREMIER REVIEWED BASIC ROC
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POLICIES. ON THE DOMESTIC SIDE, HE MENTIONED INCREASING
SELF-RELIANCE, MAKING POLITICS MORE DEMOCRATIC, REDUCING
MANPOWER IN THE ARMED FORCES, AND RAISING LIVING STANDARDS.
ON THE DIPLOMATIC SIDE, THE ROC WILL DEAL ONLY WITH DEMO-
CRATIC COUNTRIES, AND WILL STRIVE TO MAINTAIN SUBSTANTIVE
RELATIONS WITH SUCH COUNTRIES WHEN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS
DO NOT EXIST. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL THE ROC DEAL

WITH COMMUNIST REGIMES, INCLUDING THE PRC, BUT IT WILL CONTINUE TO HAVE CONTACT WITH THE PEOPLE (AS DISTINCT FROM THE GOVERNMENT) ON THE MAINLAND. REGARDING ROC/US RELATIONS, THE ROC HAS BEEN A MOST FAITHFUL ALLY WHICH HAS AND WILL ALWAYS TRY ITS BEST TO COORDINATE WITH AND SUPPORT U.S. FOREIGN POLICY.

3. IN RESPONSE TO CHAIRMAN WOLFF'S QUESTION WHETHER THE U.S. CAN MAINTAIN CONTACTS WITH THE ROC AND THE PRC, THE PREMIER SAID THAT ALTHOUGH HE UNDERSTOOD THAT THE U.S. MUST HAVE CONTACT WITH THE PRC IT WAS MOST IMPORTANT FOR THE U.S. TO UNDERSTAND WHO IS ITS FRIEND AND WHO IS ITS ENEMY. THE ROC, FOR ITS PART, WILL CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN CLOSE AND COOPERATIVE RELATIONS WITH THE U.S.

4. CHAIRMAN WOLFF POINTED OUT THAT THERE WAS A NEW ADMINISTRATION AND A NEW CONGRESS IN THE UNITED STATES. THERE WERE MANY NEW CONGRESSMEN, AND CONGRESS AS A WHOLE WAS MORE "PRAGMATIC". A VARIETY OF INTERPRETATIONS COULD BE FOUND ON MANY SUBJECTS, INCLUDING THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE. CONGRESS WAS REASSERTING ITS POWER IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS, AND THE HOUSE IN PARTICULAR IS ASSUMING A VETO POWER IN FOREIGN POLICY DELIBERATIONS WHICH WAS PREVIOUSLY EXERCISED ONLY BY THE SENATE. THE U.S. NO LONGER WANTS TO BE THE WORLD'S POLICEMAN; PERHAPS THE ROLE OF ATTORNEY IN HELPING TO RESOLVE WORLD CONFLICTS WOULD BE BETTER. NOR DOES THE U.S. WANT TO BE THE WORLD BANKER: THE ROLE OF FINANCIAL ADVISOR MIGHT BE MORE APPROPRIATE. REP. WOLFF SAID THAT THE PRESIDENT HAS INDICATED NO INTENT OF "WITHDRAWING CONFIDENTIAL

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AMERICAN SUPPORT FOR THE PEOPLE OF TAIWAN AND THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA"; HE ADDED THAT THE U.S. HAD A "GREAT MORAL OBLIGATION" TO TAIWAN.

5. THE PREMIER NOTED THAT REP. WOLFF HAD RAISED THE IMPORTANT ISSUE OF MORALITY. THE ROC HAS ALWAYS LOOKED TO THE U.S. AS A FREEDOM-LOVING COUNTRY WHICH CHERISHES JUSTICE. THE PREMIER HOPED THAT THE U.S. WOULD HAVE THE MORAL COURAGE TO DO SOMETHING FOR JUSTICE, AND HAVE THE VISION TO BE A FREEDOM FIGHTER. HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT THE U.S. WOULD TAKE UP THIS RESPONSIBILITY. THE U.S. HAS AN OUTSTANDING AMBASSADOR IN TAIPEI, AND HE MUST KNOW THAT THE ROC HAS ALWAYS DONE ITS BEST TO COOPERATE WITH U.S. POLICY. THE ROC DID NOT VIEW ITS COOPERATION WITH THE U.S. IN TERMS OF QUID PRO QUO: RATHER, THE ROC FEELS A MORAL OBLIGATION TO THE "MUTUAL DESTINY" OF THE TWO COUNTRIES. AS FOR NORMALIZATION, THE U.S. WOULD GET NO BENEFIT FROM IT, AND IT WOULD LOSE ITS CREDIBILITY IN THE PACIFIC AREA. THAT WOULD BE THE MOST DANGEROUS THING

FOR AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY.

6.NEAR THE END OF THE CALL, THE PREMIER SAID THAT SINCE NO ONE HAD RAISED THE QUESTION OF TAIWANESE/MAINLANDER RELATIONS HERE, HE WANTED TO ADDRESS THE QUESTION AND ASSURE EVERYONE THAT THE TWO GROUPS GOT ALONG WELL. POLITICALLY SPEAKING, THE PROBLEM WAS NOT SIGNIFICANT. THERE WAS NO DISCRIMINATION AGAINST TAIWANESE, AND MORE OPPORTUNITY WAS BEING GIVEN TO THEM IN THE GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY. OF COURSE,IT TOOK TIME FOR THEM TO REACH THE TOP RANKS. THE COMMON EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM OPEN TO ALL ON EQUAL TERMS WOULD ASSURE THAT THE REMAINING MINOR PROBLEMS BETWEEN MAINLANDERS AND TAIWANESE WOULD GRADUALLY DISAPPEAR.UNGER

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